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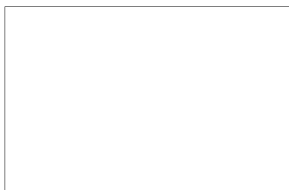
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**PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT**

**NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER**

**CAIRO HELICOPTER FACILITY NORTHWEST
EGYPT**



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SEPTEMBER 1971

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CAIRO HELICOPTER FACILITY NORTHWEST, EGYPT

ABSTRACT

1. A helicopter field and an associated hardened military installation were observed under construction near Cairo, Egypt, on photography [REDACTED]. The hardened military installation is similar to the military installations under construction at Wadi Abu Shihat Airfield and at three other military airfields in Egypt and may, along with the helicopter field, be associated with commando-type operations.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION

2. Cairo Helicopter Facility Northwest is 24 nautical miles (nm) northwest of Cairo at 30-19N 030-52E (Figure 1). The facility consists of a helicopter field connected by blacktop road to an associated hardened military installation under construction (Figure 2).

3. The helicopter field consists of two 299- by 39-meter (979- by 129-foot) ESE/WNW serviceable runways, one concrete and the other blacktop, one 211- by 29-meter (693- by 95-foot) end-connecting taxiway or runway, and one end-connecting taxiway. Parking facilities consist of two concrete parking aprons and 22 dispersed concrete hardstands. This field is similar in some respects to helicopter fields in the USSR; however, the similarities are neither strong enough nor sufficiently numerous to indicate direct Soviet participation in the design or construction of the facility.

4. The hardened military installation under construction immediately southeast of the helicopter field consists of one command and control bunker, one command and communications bunker, two administration and barracks-type bunkers, 11 barracks-type bunkers, ten support bunkers, and eight vehicle storage buildings. All of the bunkers have been constructed partially below ground and will probably be wholly earth covered when completed (Figure 3).

5. Similar hardened military installations have been observed at four other air facilities in Egypt: Wadi Abu Shihat Airfield, Wadi Abu Rish Airfield, Wadi Al Jandali Airfield, and Saiyah El Shirif Airfield (Figure 1). Of these four, the military installation at Wadi Abu Shihat is the nearest to completion (Figure 4).

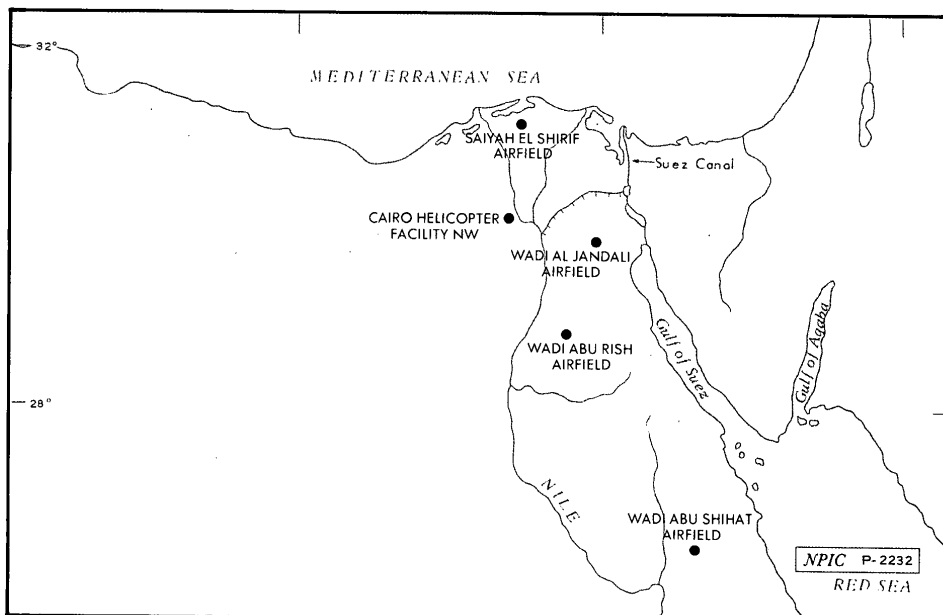


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP

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Although the ground pattern of this installation is unlike the ground pattern at Cairo Helicopter Facility Northwest, the bunkers at the two facilities, particularly the major command-type bunkers, are of the same structural design. The military installations at Wadi Al Jandali and Saiyah El Shirif are still under construction, but the bunkers at those installations are also of the same design. At Wadi Abu Shihat and at Wadi Abu Rish, the DIA Order of Battle Summary carries commando battalions.¹ Helicopters have been identified at Wadi Al Jandali and at Wadi Abu Shihat.

6. The similarity of these installations, including Cairo Helicopter Facility Northwest, suggests that they were designed to fulfill the same function. The reported presence of commando battalions at two of the installations similar to the one at Cairo, and the identification of helicopters at two airfields associated with these installations indicate that this function may be the support of helicopter-associated commando-type operations.

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REFERENCES

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MAPS OR CHARTS

AMS Maps, Series 1501, Sheets NH36-1, NH36-5, NH36-6, NH36-14,
and NG36-7, scale 1:250,000

DOCUMENTS

1. DIA. AP-220-1-4-71-INT, Order of Battle Summary, Foreign
Ground Forces, United Arab Republic, 1 March 1971 (SECRET/

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REQUIREMENT

NPIC/IEG/WGD/MEAFAB Project 120104NH

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